“The Tell-Tale Heart”

by Edgar Allen Poe

Purpose: 1) identify the elements of literature.

2) questioning and predicting while reading.

**Pre-reading: choose 1**

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| How do you react when you do something wrong? |  |
| Have you ever felt guilty? What did you do? Did you act differently? |  |
| Why do people like stories that are filled with gore? |  |

**During Reading- reading strategies**

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**Post Reading**

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| **1.** | To whom is the narrator speaking to or writing? |  |
| **2.** | Should the narrator be considered mad/insane? |  |

**Extended Learning**

Directions: with a partner, do one of the options below.

1. Read the following article on schizophrenia <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20100307/NEWS/3070342/Crimes-distort-reality-of-schizophrenia>

* Part 1: Summarize the article.
* Part 2: Determine whether or not the insanity defense is a credible defense.
* Part 3: Relate the insanity defense to “The Tell-Tale-Heart.”

1. Read Poe’s biography at the following link <http://www.biography.com/articles/Edgar-Allan-Poe-9443160?part=0>

* Part 1: Summarize the major events of Poe’s life.
* Part 2: Using specific details from his life, explain why his writing might have been so dark and mysterious.
* Part 3: Relate Poe’s biography to “The Tell-Tale-Heart.”

1. Read another of Poe’s stories from the following site <http://www.poemuseum.org/selected_works/index.html>.

* Part 1: Summarize the story.
* Part 2: Compare and contrast the story with “The Tell-Tale-Heart.”
* Part 3: Evaluate Poe’s writing style using specific phrases from his works.